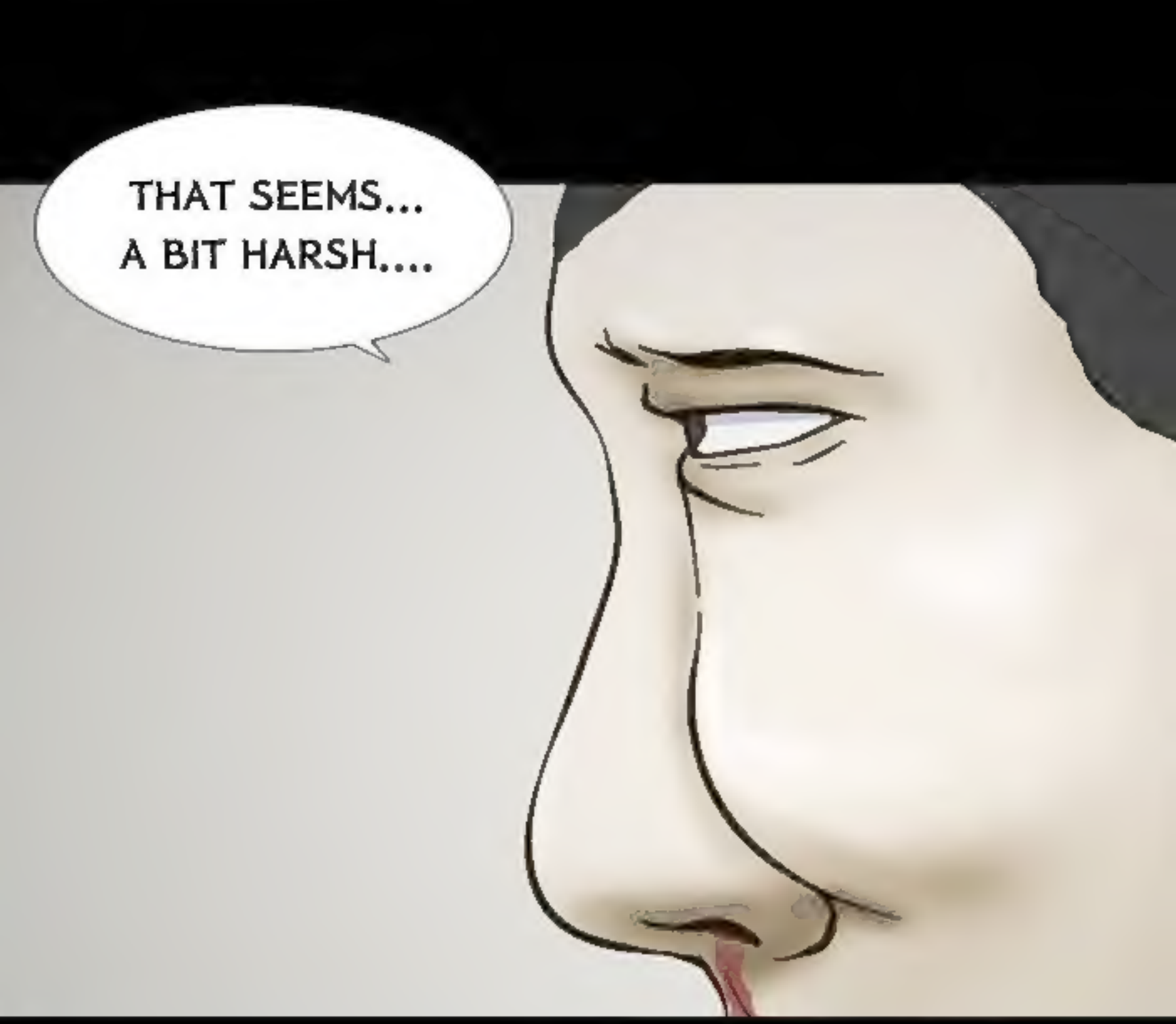
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE BEEN THROUGH THIS? ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY IF I GET DUMPED?
SORRY... I'M SORRY.... I SUDDENLY GOT CALLED IN...

CALLED! CALLED!!
ENOUGH EXCUSES!!

WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ME?!!
.....


THAT SEEMS...
A BIT HARSH....

WHAT?
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF STUFF IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW.

....WHAT? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?

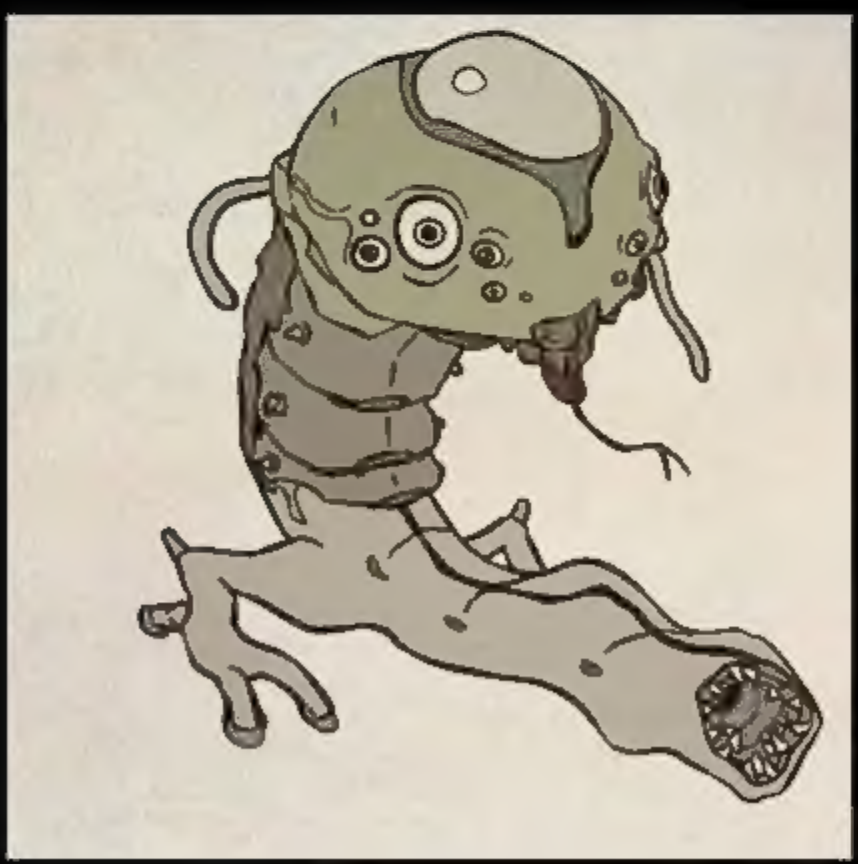
FRIDAY
FORBIDDEN TALES
禁曜日

071. JEALOUSLY (2)

ACCORDING TO HIM,

AS I GO ABOUT MY DAILY LIFE,

AS EVERYONE PEACEFULLY
GOES ABOUT THEIR DAILY LIVES,
THEY FIERCELY PROTECT US



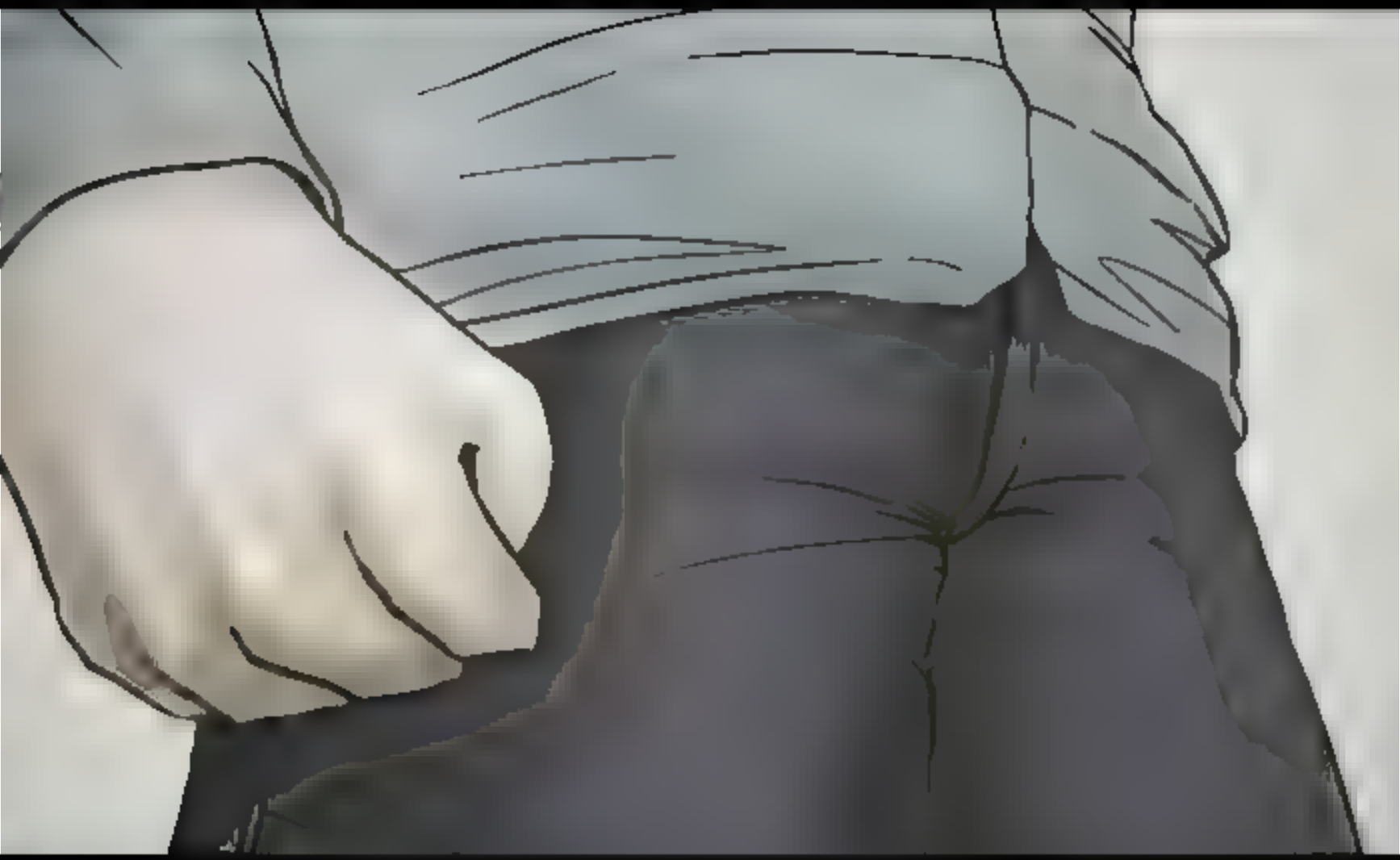
FROM CREATURES WHICH
THREATEN OUR EXISTENCE.

WITH JUST A SENSE OF DUTY AND JUSTICE ALONE,
THE 'CHOSEN ONES' PUT THEIR LIVES

ON THE LINE TO PROTECT THIS CITY,
THIS COUNTRY,

AND EVEN THE PLANET ITSELF.

AS I LISTENED TO HIM EXPLAIN THIS,
RATHER THAN FEELING GRATEFUL,



I GREW ANGRIER

ABOUT WHY HE HAD BEEN 'CHOSEN' AND NOT ME.

SO.

AND SO, THEN.

YOU MUST THINK YOU'RE PRETTY HOT STUFF, HUH? ARE YOU BRAGGING ABOUT IT?
YOU JUST HAPPENED TO GET THAT POWER BY CHANCE. STOP ACTING LIKE YOU'VE BECOME SOMETHING!

WITHOUT THAT, YOU WOULD JUST BE A USELESS BUM WITH NO JOB!

SO STOP ACTING LIKE SUCH A COCKY LITTLE...
ZIIIING

FLASH-
AGH...
UGH...

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

UGGGHHH...
WHEN DID THIS START?

HE MAY BE MY FRIEND, THAT MAY BE CLEAR,

BUT I HAVE NEVER ONCE THOUGHT THAT
I WOULD FALL BEHIND HIM.

I MEAN HONESTLY, I HAVE ALWAYS
THOUGHT I WAS BETTER,

AND EVEN SUPERIOR THAN HIM.

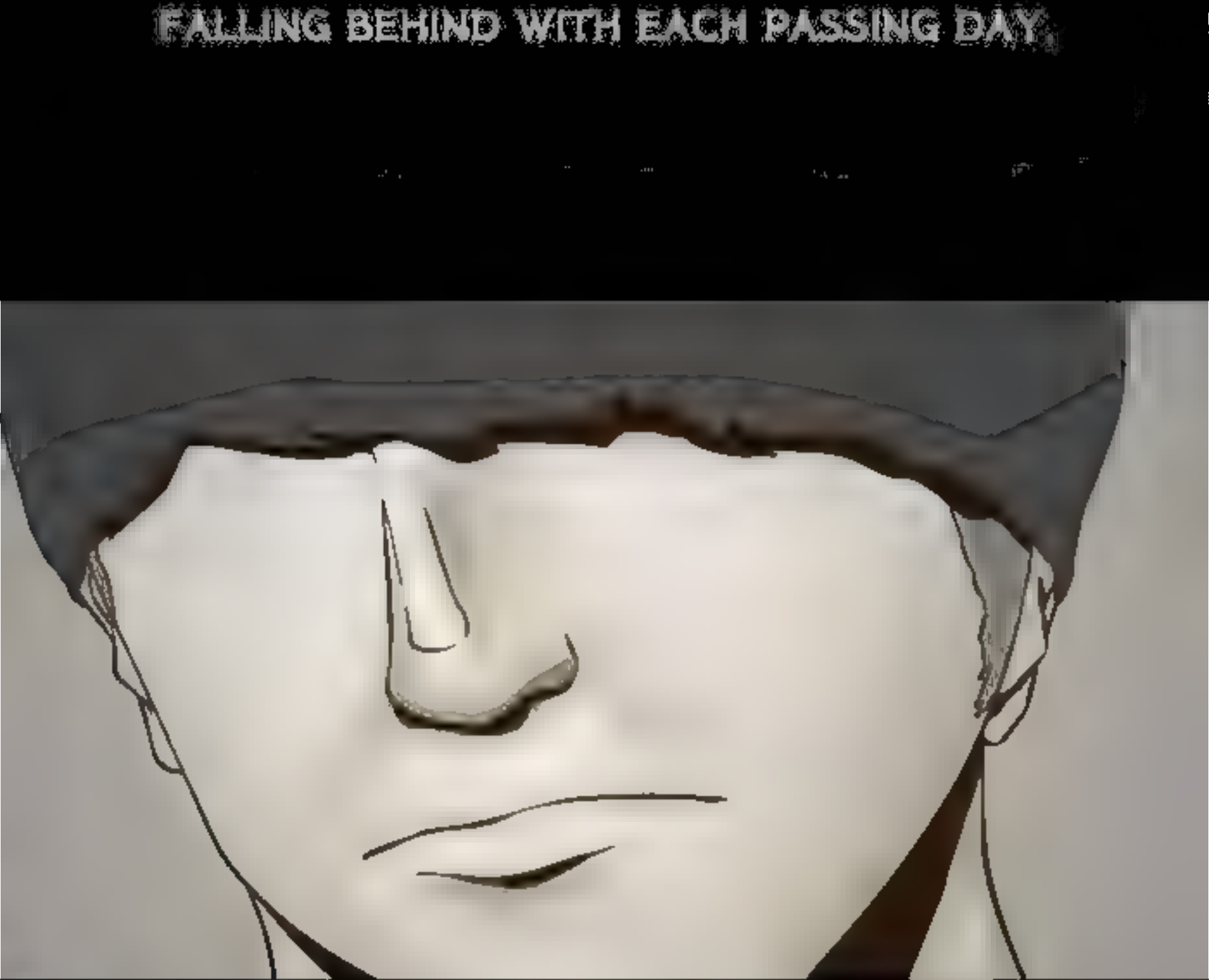
BUT IN REALITY...

HE IS DEVELOPING
AND GROWING EVERY SINGLE DAY,

WHEREAS I,

I'M JUST...

FALLING BEHIND WITH EACH PASSING DAY.



I JUST GOT PROMOTED TO AN ELITE AGENT.
I'LL PAY THE RENT AND ALL OF OUR LIVING EXPENSES. SO YOU JUST STAY QUIET.

WHEN...

WHEN ON EARTH...

DID THINGS BECOME LIKE THIS...?

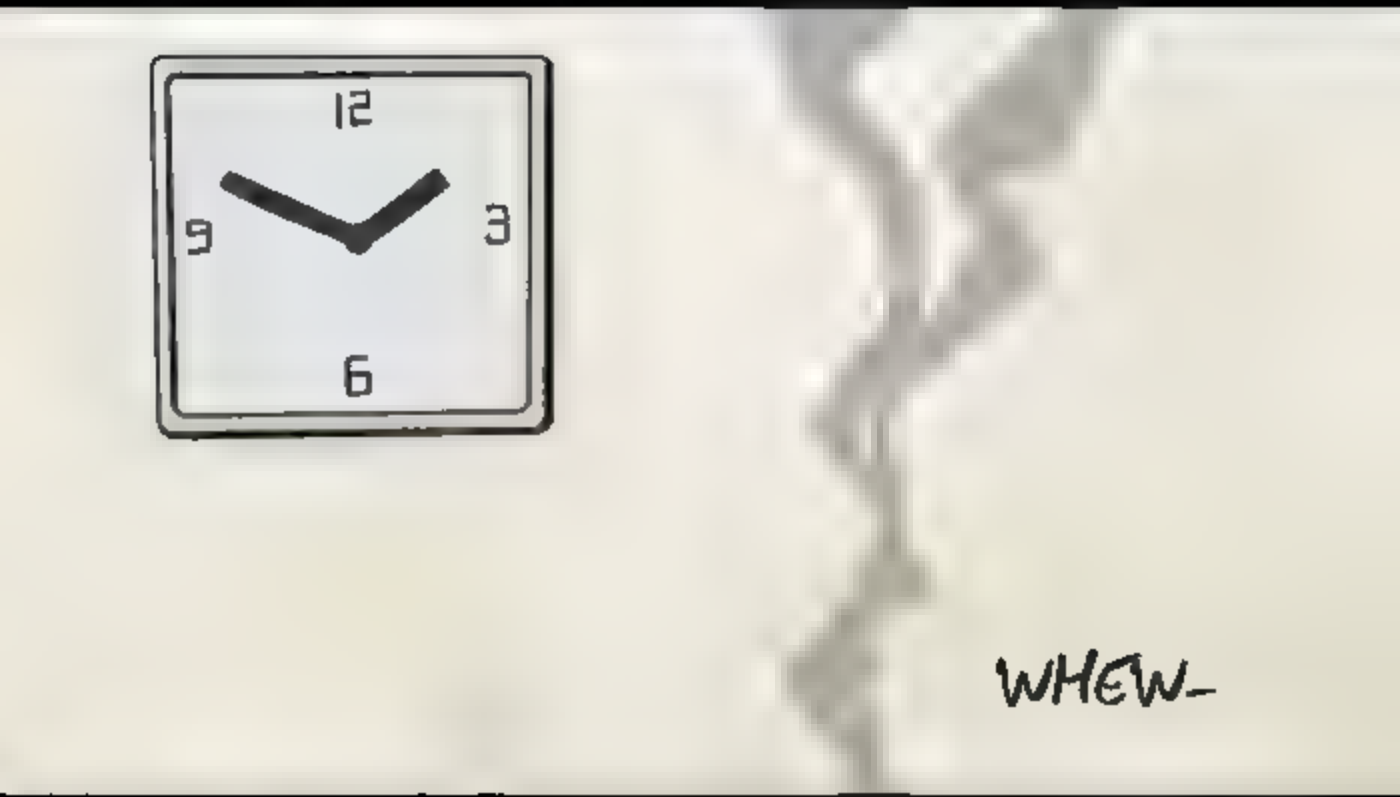
THE NEXT DAY, I GOT A CALL FROM HIM.

DO YOU HAVE TIME TOMORROW?
IT WAS MY FAULT FOR
NOT WAKING YOU UP.
I'LL BUY YOU GUYS DINNER.

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SOME FREE TIME.

CLICK-

WHAT'S THIS?
IS HE TRYING TO CURE THE DISEASE THAT
HE HIMSELF CREATED?



OR DOES HE JUST SEE ME...

AS BEING BELOW HIM NOW?

12
3
6
9

12
3
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12
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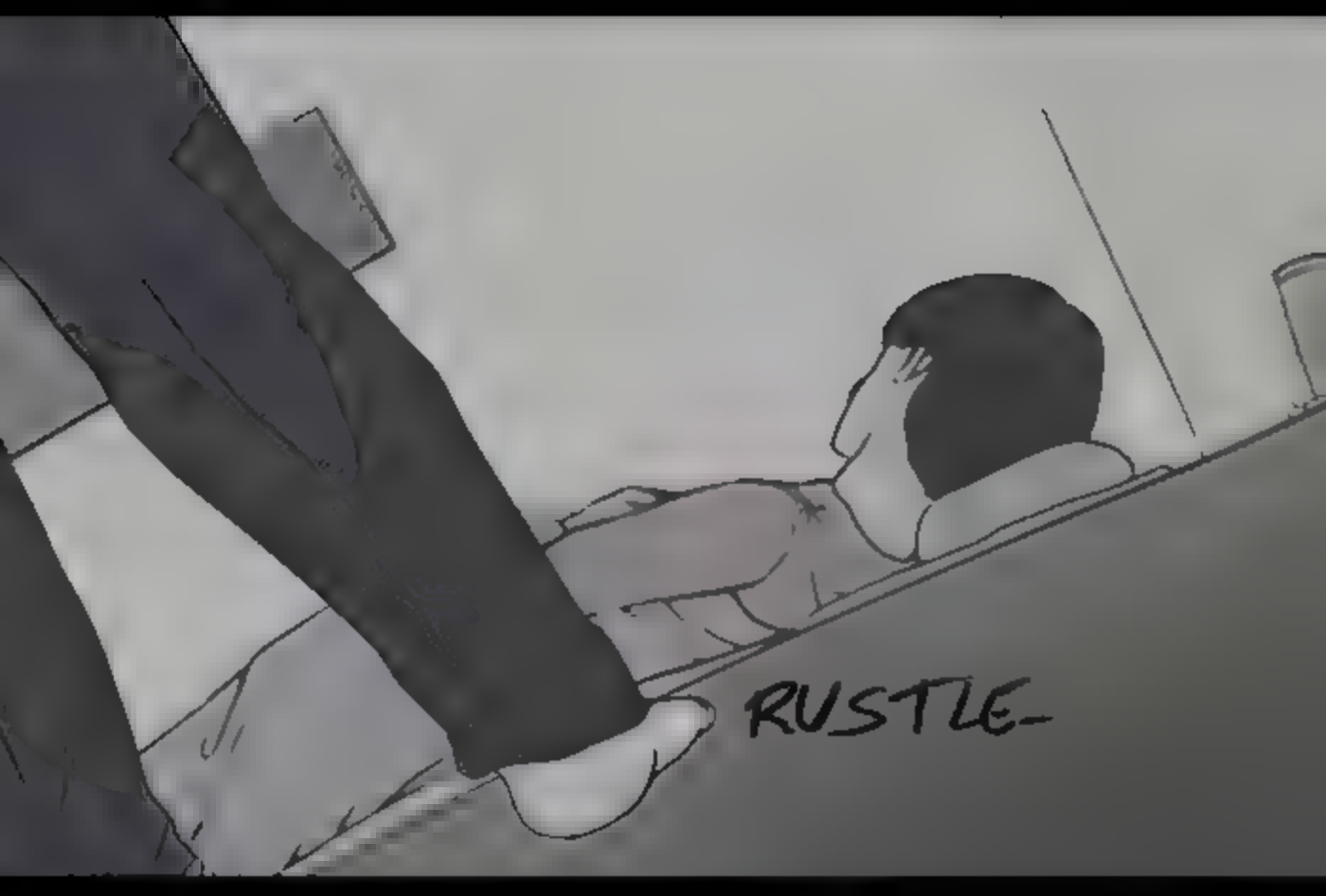

RUSTLE-

HELLO.

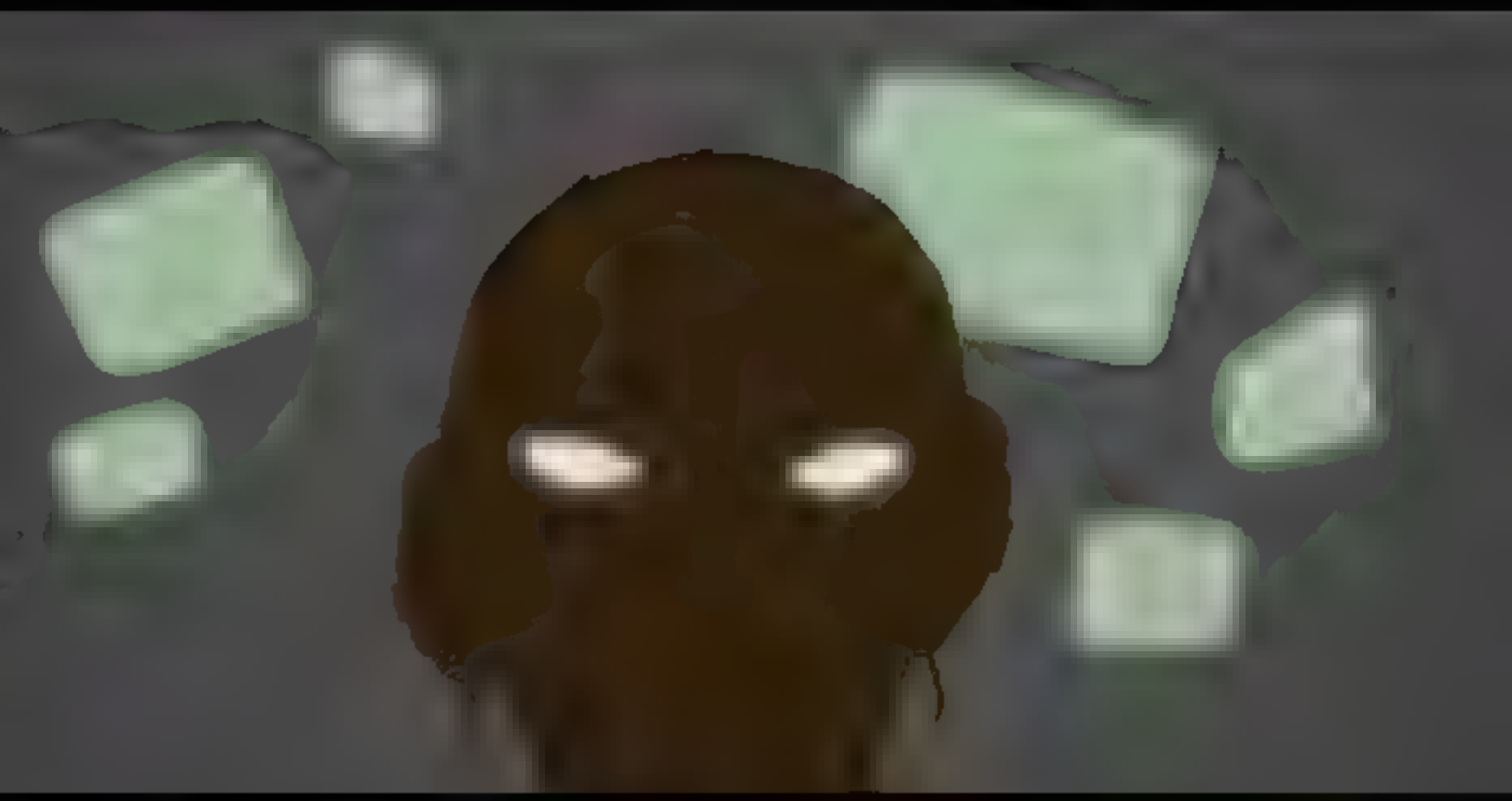
HM?

W-WHO ARE YOU?
NICE TO MEET YOU. FIRST OF ALL, I APOLOGIZE FOR HAVING TO COME HERE SO LATE AT NIGHT DUE TO THE SURVEILLANCE.

HE TOLD ME.
WHAT...? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?

THAT MY EVERY
MOVE WAS BEING CLOSELY WATCHED.

EATING, SLEEPING, EVEN GOING TO THE BATHROOM.



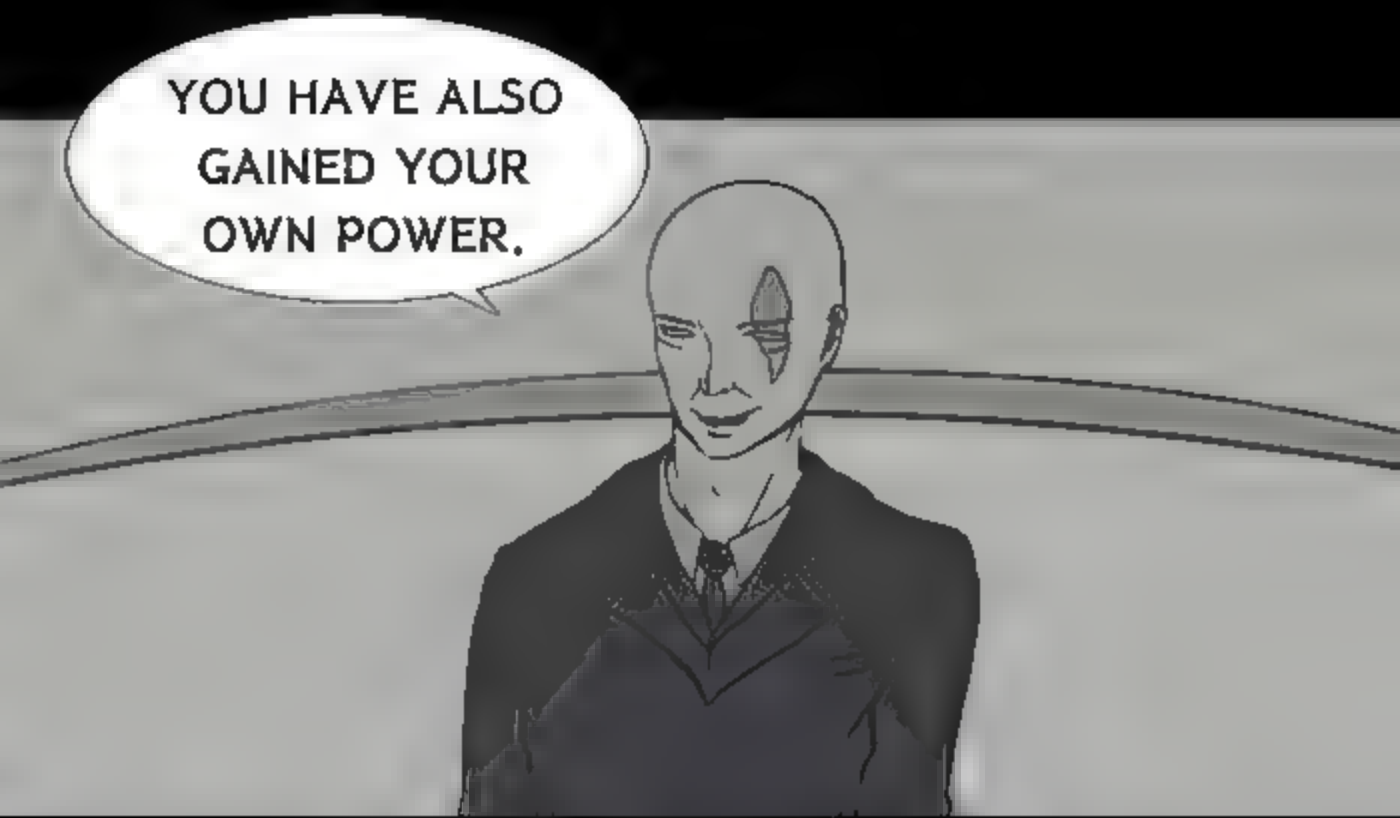
HE SAID THAT EVERYTHING I DO IS SEEN AND
HEARD BY THE EYES AND EARS OF THE 'INSTITUTION.'

THEY'RE KEEPING QUIET ABOUT IT, IN CASE YOU'LL GIVE AWAY THEIR SECRETS.
THAT'S WHY I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO COME AT THIS TIME, IN SPITE OF THE INCONVENIENCE. I'M SENDING THEM A FOOTAGE OF YOU BEING ASLEEP.

AND THE GREATER REASON,

THE EVEN MORE IMPORTANT REASON
FOR WATCHING ME,

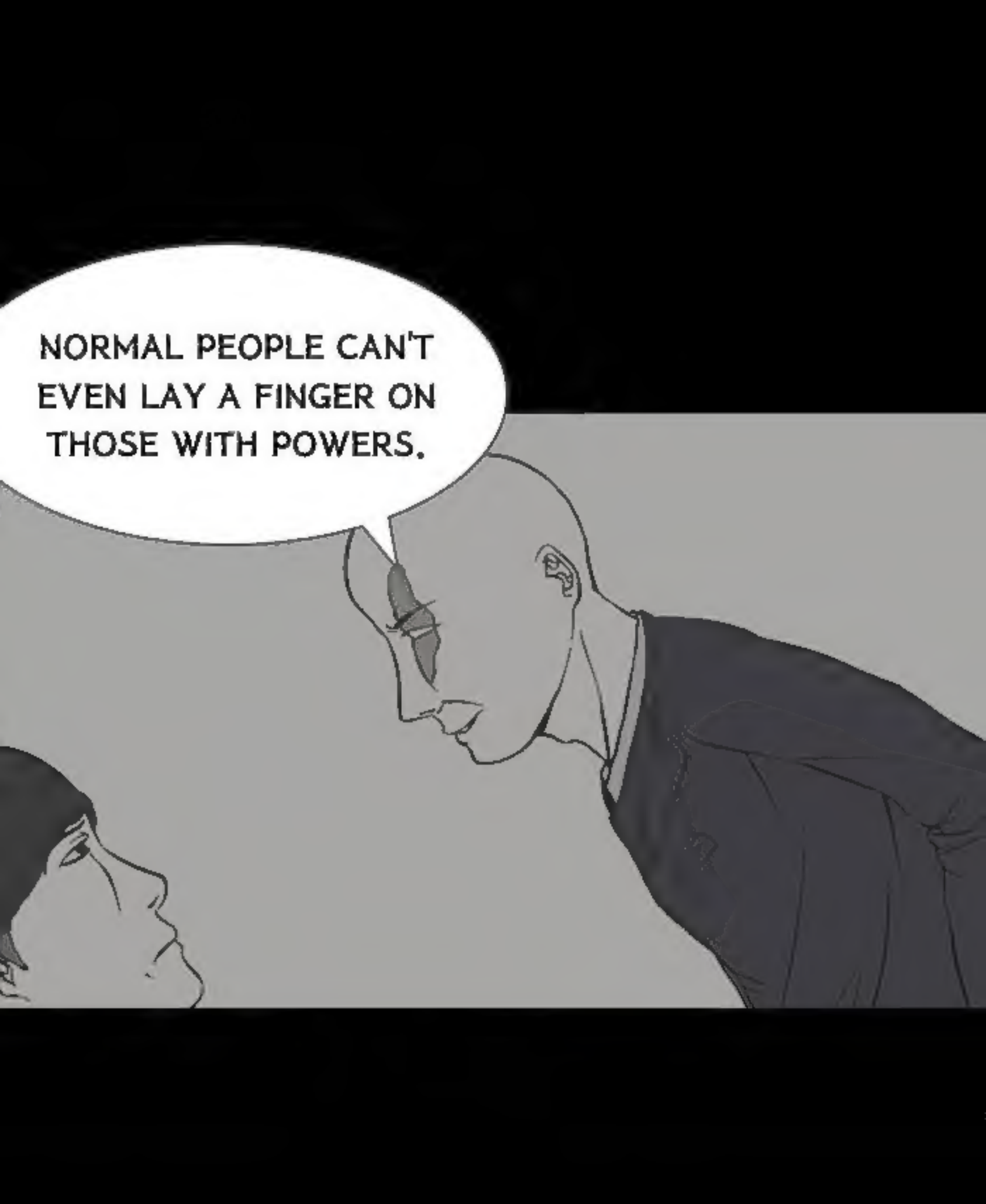
IS BECAUSE,



A POWER HAS BEEN ACTIVATED IN ME TOO.

POWERS CAN ALSO BE SPREAD AMONG CLOSE PEOPLE.
REMEMBER? WHEN YOU PUNCHED 'HIM.'

H-HOW
COULD YOU....


NORMAL PEOPLE CAN'T EVEN LAY A FINGER ON THOSE WITH POWERS.

SO... WHAT I'M SAYING,
IS THAT I WANT TO SCOUT YOU.

NEXT WEEK, JEALOUSLY (3)

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